

AMENDMENT(S) TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended): A method comprising:

storing a computer application program in a first logical directory of one or more computer-readable media;

storing a first version of a shared component and a pointer indicator in the first logical directory for execution with the computer application program on a computer system that stores at least a second version of the shared component in a second logical directory of the one or more computer-readable media, wherein the first shared component is a functional component of the computer application program that is compatible therewith; and

wherein the computer application program is configured to use the first version of the shared component and not the second version of the shared component when the computer application program is executed on the computer system based on the pointer indicator being present in the first logical directory.

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended): The method as recited in claim 1, ~~further comprising storing a reference to an indicator in the first logical directory wherein~~ the pointer indicator comprises at least a file name, the pointer indicator indicating to the computer application program that the first version of the shared ~~resource~~ component referenced by the pointer indicator is located in the first logical directory.

1
2 4. (previously presented): One or more computer readable media
3 containing computer-executable instructions that, when executed on a computer,
4 perform the following steps:

5 storing an application in a first directory of a computer system;

6 storing a local version of a shared program component in the first directory;

7 and

8 installing a file that indicates to the application that the application should
9 utilize the local version of the shared program component without regard for a
10 second version of a shared program component stored in a second directory of the
11 computer system; and

12 wherein the local version of the shared component is a functional
13 component of the application that is compatible therewith.

14
15 5. (previously presented): A method, comprising:

16 calling a shared component in a computer system;

17 detecting a local file that indicates the presence of a locally-stored version
18 of the shared component, the local file being a different file than the shared
19 component itself; and

20 in response to detecting the local file, utilizing the locally-stored version of
21 the shared component that is stored in a first directory of the computer system
22 instead of a global version of the shared component present in a second directory
23 of the computer system.

24

1 6. (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 5, further
2 comprising searching for the local file when the shared component is called and, if
3 the local file is not found, utilizing the global version of the shared component.
4

5 7. (original): The method as recited in claim 5, wherein the local file is an
6 empty file.
7

8 8. (canceled)
9

10 9. (currently amended): One or more computer readable media containing
11 computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, perform the
12 following steps:

13 storing a computer application program in a first directory of a computer
14 system that maintains a multiple-level directory structure;

15 storing a ~~first~~ local version of a shared component in the first directory for
16 execution with the computer application program on the computer system, the
17 computer system storing at least a ~~second~~ another version of the shared component
18 in a ~~second~~ directly directory of the computer system; and

19 wherein the computer application program is configured to utilize the ~~first~~
20 local version of the shared component and not the ~~second~~ other version of the
21 shared component when the computer application program is executed on the
22 computer.

1
2 10. (canceled)

3
4 11. (currently amended): The one or more computer readable media as
5 recited in claim 9, the computer executing computer-executable instructions, when
6 executed by a computer, further performing the step of storing a file in the first
7 directory of the computer system that indicates the first local version of the shared
8 component is stored in the first directory.

9
10 12. (previously presented): The one or more computer readable media as
11 recited in claim 9, wherein the shared component stored by the computer-
12 executable instructions is a component object model (COM) component.

13
14 13. (previously presented): The one or more computer readable media as
15 recited in claim 9, wherein the shared component stored by the computer-
16 executable instructions is a dynamic-link library (DLL) component.

1 14. (currently amended): A computer system, comprising:
2 memory divided into a plurality of discrete memory partitions;
3 an application program stored in a first memory partition;
4 a first version of a shared component stored in the first memory partition,
5 the first version of the shared component useable by the application program;
6 a second version of the shared component stored in a second memory
7 partition;
8 an indicator stored in the first memory partition that, when present,
9 indicates the existence of the first version of the shared component in the first
10 memory partition; and
11 wherein the application program utilizes the first version of the shared
12 component if the indicator is present.

13
14 15. (original): A computer system as recited in claim 14, wherein the
15 indicator includes a file having a name conforming to a pre-defined type.

16
17 16. (original): A computer system as recited in claim 15, wherein the file
18 is an empty file.

19
20 17. (canceled)

21
22 18. (canceled)

23
24 19. (canceled)

1
2 20. (original): The computer system as recited in claim 14, wherein the
3 shared component is a component object model (COM) component.
4

5 21. (original): The computer system as recited in claim 14, wherein the
6 shared component is a dynamic-link library (DLL) component.
7

8 22. (currently amended): One or more computer-readable media
9 containing a directory tree data structure having multiple directories, comprising:
10 a first directory that contains a pointer to a ~~first~~ global version of a shared
11 component useable by a plurality of computer programs;
12 a second directory that contains a pointer to an application program and a
13 pointer to a ~~second~~ local version of the shared component; and
14 wherein the application program utilizes the ~~second~~ local version of the
15 shared component when the application program calls the shared component.
16

17 23. (currently amended): The one or more computer-readable media as
18 recited in claim 22, wherein the second directory further includes an indicator that
19 indicates the existence of the ~~second~~ local version of the shared component.
20

21 24. (previously presented): The one or more computer-readable media
22 directory tree data structure as recited in claim 23, wherein the indicator includes a
23 pointer to a file having a name of a pre-defined type.
24

1 25. (previously presented): The one or more computer-readable media
2 directory tree data structure as recited in claim 22, wherein the shared component
3 is a component object model (COM) component.

4
5
6 26. (new): A method comprising:
7 storing a computer application program on one or more computer-readable
8 media;

9 storing a first version of a shared component in the one or more computer-
10 readable media for execution on a computer system that stores at least a second
11 version of the shared component, wherein the first component is a functional
12 component of the computer application program that is compatible therewith;

13 establishing a logical relationship between the computer application
14 program and the first version of the shared component so that the application uses
15 the first version of the shared component and not the second version of the shared
16 component when the computer application program is executed on the computer
17 system; and

18 wherein the establishing a logical relationship between the computer
19 application program and the first version of the shared component includes
20 configuring a logical directory data structure that has multiple logical directories
21 so that the computer application program and the first version of the shared
22 component are referenced within a first logical directory, and wherein the second
23 version of the shared component is referenced within a second logical directory.

24